

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/884,153

Applicant(s)

ADLER ET AL.

Examiner

Thomas M. Ho

Art Unit

2134

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/23/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 5/12/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

AT

Reasons for Allowance

1. The applicant has amended significantly to the independent claims. The amended independent claims now recite “wherein each rule defines an action corresponding to an associated privacy-related action, a logical condition that identifies a condition under which a particular decision is generated, and a decision indicating a manner by which said associated privacy related action is to be performed.” The Examiner notes that the meaning of the term “privacy-related action” was a point of contention, but now is believed to be resolved as it is defined by the specification. This definition of this term is explicitly defined in page 4 of the specification, paragraph 2.

The closest prior art, Kido, recites the construction of a rule for “access”, a privacy related action as defined by the specification. However, Applicant’s amended claim now recites “constructing a rule for each of said privacy-related actions, wherein each rule defines an action...”, which now explicitly include the other elements on the privacy related list, including *disclose, release, notify, utilize, update, withdraw consent, give consent, delete, anonymize, depersonalize, and repersonalize*. These actions are related to services provided as stated in the specification. Kido fails to disclose the privacy related actions as defined, and the rejection of 6/01/05 has been overcome.

No art further disclosing the limitations of the privacy related actions maintaining the structure as dictated by claim 1 can be found. No motivation in the prior art can be found.

Accordingly, the claims are held to be allowable.

Independent claims 4 and 7 are substantially similar to claim 1, and recite the same amendments. Accordingly, they are allowable for the same reasons.

Dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8-20 depend on allowable independent claims and are allowable for this reason.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Thomas M Ho whose telephone number is (571)272-3835. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory A. Morse can be reached on (571)272-3838.


The Examiner may also be reached through email through Thomas.Ho6@uspto.gov

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571)272-2100.

General Information/Receptionist Telephone: 571-272-2100 Fax: 571-273-8300

Customer Service Representative Telephone: 571-272-2100 Fax: 571-273-8300

TMH


GREGORY MORSE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Application/Control Number: 09/884,153

Page 4

Art Unit: 2134

September 22nd, 2005